



ATTACK ON AMERICA

The Politics

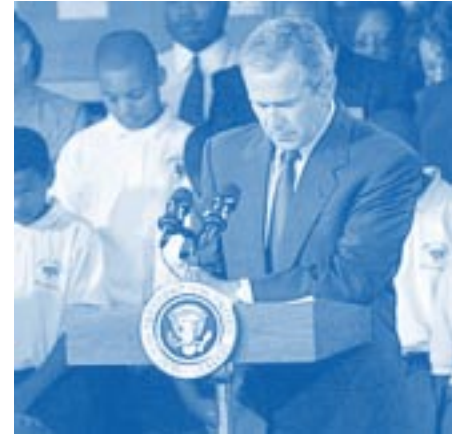
Why do they hate us? It is a question that Americans have asked themselves and each other since the attack on the World Trade Center, September 11th. CBS News Eric Engberg, and Professor Robert S. Robins, co-author of "Political Paranoia," report that the hatred and suspicion we are seeing is not an obscure mental state afflicting just a few, but a widespread condition of modern societies. The malign power of paranoia can be attributed to a variety of extremist movements like McCarthyism, in terror organizations like the Irish Republican Army, in leaders like Hitler, Stalin, Pol Pot, Jim Jones, David Koresh, Saddam Hussein, and Osama bin Laden, and with individual terrorists like Timothy McVeigh who carry out the violence in the name of politics or religion. Indeed, Robins shows that the paranoid dynamic has been aggressively present in every social disaster of this century.

The underlying anger inciting this political paranoia in the Islamic Middle East comes from two extremes. On one side, many Muslims resent that the U.S. supports the elite "kingdoms" currently dominating much of the Middle East, and that the U.S. hasn't done more to encourage democracy and social progress—the division between rich and poor is huge. On the other side, there are Muslim fundamentalists who want the U.S. totally out of the Middle East. They blame the U.S. for contaminating Muslims with decadent Western values, and resent the U.S. support for Israel. America seems unable to please anyone in the Middle East, yet America remains the most generous country in the world. To date for this year, in response to a severe drought and extreme poverty, the U.S. has provided Afghanistan over \$177 million in aid.

In the case of Osama bin Laden, his anger is against freedom. The good news is that Muslims are breaking the last shackles of dictatorship off of religion. Unfortunately, with this emancipation there will be a few who will resist—fanatics who will use terrorism to fight against religious freedom. According to Dr. Donald P. Green of Yale University, who spoke at a White House Conference on "hate-crime" in November 1997, the religious fanatic feels totally justified in the view that "the traditional way of life is disappearing so fast that we need to use force to save it." This is the rationalization for the evil they do. But it's not about protecting religion. It's about their unfounded belief that they have the right to control the minds of others.

So when President George W. Bush said, "our way of life, our very freedom came under attack," regarding the terrorist attack of September 11th, he was not exaggerating. The paranoia behind the terrorism of September 11th is not a war of religion, it is the oldest war of all—a war of power between freedom loving people and those who seek to impose their rule. President Bush compared the terrorists to the 20th Century's most evil forces: "By sacrificing human life to serve their radical visions—by abandoning every value except the 'will to power'—they follow in the path of fascism and Nazism and totalitarianism."

Of course, it's true that in a free society, some people will abuse their freedom. American television does enough to demonstrate that, unfortunately. And, of course, democracy cannot meet everyone's desires and needs. But history shows that totalitarian regimes always abuse power, committing far greater crimes and acts of decadence than a free society. As far as decadence and crime goes, at least in a free society, we openly



deal with it, instead of burying it behind a cloak of secrecy and brutality. As far as spirituality goes, attempts by sects to impose it on others only beget hypocrisy and cruelty.

Unfortunately, for the foreseeable future, the zealot will continue to commit acts of violence against innocent citizens and use suicidal martyrs, just as the "Imperial" Japanese dictators used kamikazes, because deep down they realize they are losing the larger war. All power mongers resort to terror as a desperate attempt to take control.

The Psychology

And despite the scale of September 11th, there is nothing unique about this "political paranoia" that Dr. Robins refers to. The question is, why does it only inspire some people to commit acts of terrorism? Police and psychologists are starting to see the parallels between men like Timothy McVeigh and Osama bin Laden. Both see the taking of human life as nothing more than "collateral damage" (McVeigh's actual words). There are different profiles for different types of criminals, and in the case of terrorists, there seems to be a common thread.

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued from Page 1)

From the Biblical perspective, all religion warns of the human inclination to serve ourselves rather than God, and in the case of a men like Timothy McVeigh and Osama bin Laden, to force their beliefs and mete out destruction as if they were a god. Evil acts are born of inordinate pride, an immoral arrogance that disguises itself in a false cloak of politics or religion. For instance, McVeigh's final words, before his execution, were the height of arrogance. As justification for his murders, he quotes the poem *Invictus*, stating: "I am the master of my fate. I am the captain of my soul." An absurd statement, of course, since McVeigh was about to have his fate and soul put to justice. The grandiosity that McVeigh exhibited—that by his act he would bring down the government—shows how badly the hero ethos can be perverted.

"Narcissism is what allows you to get evil acts from seemingly ordinary people," says Dr. Jeffrey Schwartz, a neuropsychiatrist at UCLA. Feeling that your end justifies any means, as did the Nazis, is what psychologists now call "righteous conformity." In theological terms, unrepentant wrongdoing is called "invincible ignorance," says Reverend Michael Orsi. While it is normal to be a little self-centered, a lack of empathy and compassion is what all evildoers share. "They cannot see the self in others," says Dr. Carl Bell, a psychiatrist at the University of Illinois. It's not that they don't understand the terror and anguish others feel, it's just that they don't care a whit, or even enjoy seeing others suffer.

Psychologists refer to the narcissism of terrorists as the "Hubris-Nemesis Complex." "Hubris" means presumption and arrogance combined with a feeling of godliness; "Nemesis" involves the desire to humiliate and defeat presumed enemies. Quite devious in their manipulation, terrorists try to gain power by taking advantage of social problems. They incite people's fears by spreading exaggerations and lies. They make bold promises and claim they represent a higher order. If they obtain power, however, they practice total disregard for the virtues they had claimed to champion. This has always been the trick of the zealot: they speak as though they champion virtue, but once in power, they act with total disregard for common morality and impose their own beliefs.

The terrorist's blind ambition often re-

sults in a "Pyrrhic victory." The term "Pyrrhic victory" comes from an incident in Ancient Greece. Pyrrhus, the King of Epirus, out of his desire for conquest, won many battles, but at such high cost that he was ultimately killed by his own people. Often too late, followers find out that they have been manipulated, sacrificing everything good and righteous by following the zealot. In the case of Timothy McVeigh, the US militia movement broke apart out of disgust with the bombing that McVeigh thought would destroy America's corrupt government. In the case of Hitler, most Germans followed him right into hell and total destruction of their country—leaders like Field Marshall Erwin Rommel, who backed an assassination attempt on Hitler, acted too late.

The Unassuming Face of Evil

Israeli psychologists have conducted extensive research on several would-be suicidal martyrs who accidentally survived their mission, and the average profile that emerges is strikingly similar to the average school shooter. They are usually polite, but timid and introverted, generally not popular, especially with women. McVeigh was described as polite, unassuming, likable but not memorable. Osama bin Laden is described as soft-spoken, almost effeminate, with a humble gentle manner. Hitler too, while a rehearsed public speaker, in his private relations was described as friendly, but boring. But beneath the unassuming face, envy and anger seem to be the underlying emotions. For them, becoming a terrorist or revolutionary, or school shooter for that matter, is a way to become powerful and famous. And once they declare their intentions, there is no turning back or they will lose face.

Newsweek's Kenneth Woodward and Sharon Begley took a closer look at the personal lives of terrorists. As a boy, Timothy McVeigh was very thin and was the subject of brutal and humiliating bullying, once having been ganged up on in the school bathroom and had his head shoved into the toilet. The genesis of Hitler's evil is ascribed to maternal smothering and paternal violence. Nobody is sure about the childhood of the Middle Eastern terrorists. But as adults, Hitler, McVeigh, and bin Laden pushed back against what they perceived as the bully—the US government—at the expense of innocent people. Their victim paranoia turned to political paranoia. After

being bullied, they became the bully; then their ruthless desire for vengeance resulted in violence. And if the psychology of the zealot is that of a bully, we need to take warning from our experience with Hitler—successful acts of aggression only inspire additional acts. Failure to stand up to a bully is like giving him permission to proceed.

What Now?

Only a few years ago, Huston Smith, one of the world's most acknowledged experts on world religions, was asked: "What would you say to those who say, 'Mine is the one pure religion, and everyone else is doomed.'" Smith responded with a single statement: "I would say, 'God bless you.'" Those who hurt innocent people are missing the fundamental element of religion, which is "love." But for goodness to prevail, we must remember the dangers. We risk falling into the abyss if we go to one extreme and become like zealots, or at the other extreme and don't hold them accountable.

Retired General H. Norman Schwarzkopf said, after the terrorist attacks on September 11, there's one big difference between these zealots and truly righteous people: "Even during war, in Desert Storm, we tried to avoid hurting innocent people, even when it increased the risk to our own lives. These zealots purposely target innocent people. We must never forget this difference... The reason for this is, in America, we take an oath to uphold a Constitution and laws. They blindly follow an individual. That's what separates us from them." The zealot uses terrorism in an attempt to provoke prejudice and brutality from legitimate authority; this allows them to justify further acts of terrorism. What police, military, and government officials must do to defeat terrorism is act with conviction, keeping mindful that justice, not revenge, is the goal.

Another danger is too much psychology, thinking that this social influence or personality type caused a person to commit the evil deed. But the explanation should not become the excuse; many others have experienced similar problems without killing innocent people. Already there are people making excuses for Osama bin Laden, blaming America's foreign policy for his underlying hatred. But, to understand all should not be to

(Continued on Page 6)

Alertness is the Key to Policing, Because You Can Never Count On Routine

It was just 70 minutes after the bombing of the Murrah Building in Oklahoma City when Trooper Charlie Hanger stopped and arrested Timothy McVeigh. Hanger is a career cop with a passion for DUI enforcement. The day he pulled over the worst mass-murderer in U.S. history was entirely routine. Hanger saw a car without tags and made the stop.

When he slapped the cuffs on the man who killed 168 innocent people after finding him driving a car with no rear plate and being in possession of an unregistered firearm, Hanger had no idea he had just made the arrest of the century. A clear example of how in law enforcement, simple cases often lead to larger crimes. Here's the story of the arrest in his own words:

"I was driving up I-35 traveling around 90 miles per hour when I drove by a yellow Mercury Marquis with no rear license plate. I slowed down and pulled the car over. I took cover behind the door of my car until I was sure he didn't have anything in his hands. We met between my car and his.

We had all heard about the bombing a little over an hour before, but I never thought to connect the young man I had just stopped with what had happened in Oklahoma City. He looked very clean cut and I wasn't surprised to learn later he was a veteran.

He told me he just bought the car and didn't have time to get a license plate. One thing that raised my suspicions right away was the way he looked at his bumper when I told him why he was stopped. I thought if he knew he didn't have a tag, why did he look at the back of the car like that? It just didn't seem right. He came up with his excuse way too quickly.

I asked him to show me proof of insurance. He said he didn't have any. I got the same answer when I asked him about a bill of sale for the car. He said something like, 'they're still filling it out.'

He was very calm and polite. When I asked him for his driver's license—he had a windbreaker on—he went to reach for his right rear pocket. This movement pulled his jacket tight and I noticed a bulge under his left arm. He handed me the driver's license. The picture looked like him and I put it in my back pocket.

I told him to use both hands and very slowly unzip his jacket. He followed my instructions. Then he said, 'I have a weapon.'

I grabbed the outside of his jacket and reached for the bulge. I spun him around and told him to keep his hands in the air. He was still very compliant. I drew my weapon. As we were walking back towards his car, he told me his gun was loaded, I told him 'so is mine' as I nudged him back towards the car.

At the time, I thought he was trying to intimidate me, but looking back, I think he was afraid I would accidentally discharge his gun and blow his arm off. A 'black talon' round was in the chamber. If that round had gone off accidentally, he would have been seriously injured.

Still holding my gun, I was able to grab his weapon. He said he had another magazine as well as a knife. I removed them all and threw them off to the side of the road. At that point I handcuffed him behind his back, took him to the front seat of my patrol car and seat-belted him in.

I asked him why he wanted to carry a weapon. He said he carried it for protection. He was pretty clear that



he thought he had a right to carry a gun.

I picked up his gun, knife and ammunition from the side of the road. After unloading the gun, I called the dispatcher and ran the serial number. At the time I couldn't use the radio in my car because the entire radio net was in favor of Oklahoma City. The only way I could get through was on my cell phone.

When I had trouble reading the serial number on his gun, McVeigh popped off a number. He was only one digit off. I told him that most people wouldn't be able to rattle off their gun's serial number like that. I remember he said, 'Well I can!'

I decided to run checks on him. He had a Michigan driver's license—that checked out. I called the place where he said he bought the car—from a Firestone dealer in Junction City, Kansas from a guy named Tom. The story panned out.

I asked him where he was coming from. He said he was moving to Arkansas and he was on his way back to Kansas to get more of his belongings.

Ten or 15 minutes went by. I read him his Miranda rights and asked him if he had a problem with me search-

(Continued on Page 4)

(Continued from Page 3)

ing his car. I searched the interior and trunk but didn't find anything. I did notice a thick envelope all sealed up on the front seat of the car. He said it was okay to leave it there. When I asked him if he wanted to have the car impounded or leave it on the side of the road, he said he wanted it left on the road. I locked it up and left it there.

I took him back to the Noble County Jail, 20 minutes away from where I stopped him. I booked him for failure to display a plate, no proof of insurance, unlawfully carrying a weapon, and transporting a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle.

He was still extremely calm. He asked very few questions. He did ask what had happened to his weapon. He also showed some interest in my service weapon—he knew I was carrying a 9mm.

There was a female jailer on duty. I stayed there until she got him booked. I was typing out the report when she asked him for his next of kin. He refused to answer. "I went over and asked him if he had heard her. I told him he had to answer—that we only wanted the information in case he got sick. I asked him who lived at the address on his drivers license. He said it was a brother of a friend he was in the military with. The address

turned out to be the residence of James Nichols, Terry Nichols' brother.

I told him to remove his clothes, fold them up, put them in a sack and put on the clothes we issued to prisoners. He did everything I asked him to do. At that point, he was photographed and put in a cell. That was the last personal contact I had with Timothy McVeigh.

Two days later on Friday, I had just started my three days off. A dispatcher called and wanted to know if I had run a certain social security number. I told them I thought it was the guy I arrested Wednesday—Timothy McVeigh. They wanted to know if he was still in the jail. I had to call and find out. He was still there. When I called back to the Command Post in Oklahoma City, a major told me he was a suspect in the bombing, that the FBI would be in touch and not to release him.

Saturday was the first time I had been back to my car. I always made it a practice to thoroughly check my police car before starting it up. That's when I noticed a crumbled piece of paper that had fallen down in back of where McVeigh had been sitting. It was a business card—an Army surplus store in Antigo, Wisconsin. On the back someone had written,

'Will need more TNT at \$5 a pound or stick. Will call after May 1.' I took it to the FBI.

I never viewed what I did as heroic. I just was doing my job the way thousands of other troopers around the country do their jobs every day. I will say that on that day the good Lord put me in the right place at the right time and He took care of me while I was there.

If there's any way that this whole thing has changed me, it's probably the effect on me of the bombing rather than my arrest of McVeigh. The bombing definitely made me more compassionate. I now take the time to tell the people I love how I feel.

There was a time I wanted to talk to him again. I had a lot of questions—mostly why he didn't shoot me. But then I read his book. It was totally self-serving. I realized that there was no possibility of honest communication with McVeigh—that talking to him would be a waste of time." ■

Reprinted with permission of Lt. Charlie Hanger and the American Police Beat, July/Aug 2001, Volume VIII, No. 6., all rights reserved, (www.apbweb.com).

Weapons, Fear of Liability, and Police Safety

"An officer is authorized to point and/or discharge a firearm in self-defense or defense of another when he or she reasonably believes there is imminent danger of death or great bodily harm."

In the preceding article, Trooper Charlie Hanger of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol describes the process whereby he drew his weapon and then disarmed Timothy McVeigh. McVeigh had already raised a lot of suspicion by the way he responded to questions regarding his car's registration. It was halfway through the traffic stop that Hanger spotted a bulge under Timothy McVeigh's jacket. After asking McVeigh to unzip his jacket, McVeigh said he had a weapon. It was not until then that Hanger finally drew his weapon, disarming and handcuffing McVeigh.

It used to be in Michigan that if an officer spotted a gun, concealed on



or near a subject, chances were there was at least a CCW violation. But like Oklahoma, Michigan now has a "shall issue" CCW statute. This complicates matters, because now police will encounter increasing numbers of citizens legally carrying concealed weapons.

The question a lot of police are asking is, "Can I disarm someone even though they have a CCW permit?" The answer is the same as under the old CCW statute: "sometimes." Obviously you can disarm someone immediately if they are carrying a concealed weapon without a permit. But even when they have a permit, you can still separate them from their weapon "if" you can "articulate concerns" for officer safety. Note that Trooper Hanger was able to articulate his concerns, even though he still had not ascertained whether or not McVeigh had a CCW permit.

McVeigh's actions and answers to
(Continued on Page 5)

(Continued from Page 4)

questions regarding the registration violation did not add up. He had no paperwork, not even a bill of sale. Also, McVeigh waited to tell Hanger about his gun until half way through the traffic stop, after Hanger asked him to unzip his jacket. Hanger got the kind of gut feeling all experienced cops get, and was able to articulate this in his report. This is how reasonable suspicion gets established, building one piece of evidence on top of another.

Another question that police ask is, "When can I draw down on someone?" If you are making an arrest of a violent felon, or of an offender who is known to be violent, it is relatively easy to justify drawing down on the subject for safety reasons. But just as in the case where Trooper Hanger drew down on McVeigh, there are times where you may have reasonable suspicion that a subject is potentially dangerous before you even know if there will be an arrest.

According to Jeff Chudwin, President of the Illinois Tactical Officers Association and Chief of the Olympia Fields, Illinois, Police Department, the issue of liability and lawsuits related to "use of" or "show of" force is often raised by police because, unfortunately, they don't know the law. And when police don't keep up on legal issues, they are prone to hesitate or overreact.

Failure to act in the face of possible danger may lead to the injury or death of officers and citizens. In one case, an officer reported that he and his partner did not fire on an offender pointing two pistols at the officers because they were afraid of "liability" if the pistols were not real. The offender shot and murdered one of the officers. What was being said is that the officers were more fearful of a lawsuit, even when faced with a deadly force threat, than being murdered.

Conversely, officers acting without adequate understanding of the legal rules of engagement may violate law and departmental policy. An officer in the southern part of Illinois shot and killed a man who struck him in the face and ran

away. The officer was sentenced to 10 years in the penitentiary for failure to understand the United States Supreme Court ruling of *Tennessee v. Garner*.

While we do not control events around us, police can train to control their reaction to events. Police officers have the authority to use reasonable force, including fatal force if there is no other option. Good cops, the ones that always seem to get the job done without getting in trouble, not only train physically, they study mentally. There is no faking knowledge.

What will an officer do when a victim runs up the street and shouts, "Help me, I've just been robbed"? Is it an armed robbery, a theft from a person, or a simple theft? Armed Robbery involves the potential for deadly force. But for a retail theft, such as shoplifting, a lethal force response is unjustifiable. Did you ascertain if there was a threat to life? Failing to do so could needlessly cost someone their life, or cost you your job and your freedom.

What if you respond to an anonymous cell phone tip of suspicious persons hanging around a street corner? The complainant stated he saw

a white male in a brown coat showing two other young males a handgun. You arrive and find the three subjects waiting for a bus. They pay little attention to you, and they don't make any unusual movements or suspicious actions. Do you have reasonable suspicion to conduct a pat-down? How about drawing your weapon for protection? Under *Florida vs. J.L.*, an anonymous tip by itself doesn't even justify a pat down search. So the best an officer can do in this circumstance is try to collect further information, like Trooper Hanger did.

Despite police complaints to the contrary, both courts and department policies give police a lot of latitude when it comes to how they do their job. But it is the police officer's responsibility to legally justify their actions—nobody can do that for you. Physical skills, tactical communication, firearms, batons, chemical sprays, etc., are our primary defenses. But legal knowledge is needed to guide these skills. For more on criminal law and police procedure, see the "Legal Update" section of the Michigan State Police Training Division web site at: www.msp.state.mi.us/division/academy ■

Alert: Cell Phone Lookalike Handgun

Police should be alert to the fact that there is a black-market weapon on the streets that looks like a cell phone, but is actually a

multi-shot handgun. It fires simply by aiming the fake cell phone antenna at the intended victim and then pressing certain buttons.



(Continued from Page 2)

forgive all. To be just, we must seek explanation in the particulars, but even an honest miscalculation about means and ends cannot excuse horrendous acts of violence. We have a moral responsibility as human beings not to commit acts of evil, and those who commit transgressions must be held accountable.

According to the former Director of Military History at USAF Academy, Lt. Col. Tony Kern, this war will be won or lost by America's ability to remain focused and persistent. These men hate the United States with all of their being, and we must not underestimate their commitment. We may well be pulling our new adversaries out of caves 30 years after

we think this war is over, just like our father's generation had to do with the formidable Japanese in the years following WW II. While the US military is taking the battle to the enemy's home ground, unlike past wars, this enemy will come to our country for the counter attack. This puts all police in the position of being our frontline soldiers for our defense. It will be up to every police department to keep the counter-terrorism program running, even in times of budget restraint, even though other problems will arise, even if the terrorists go underground for a couple of years. Our enemy is willing—better said anxious—to train for years, then give their lives for

their cause. The questions are: How committed are we? For how long? And can federal, state, and local police agencies stay vigilant in this battle? And so, across the centuries, we pray to be delivered from our enemies (and our own shortcomings)—to be delivered, ultimately, from evil. ■

When the fires are burning and the weapons are exploding—everyone flees—except for fire and police personnel, they move "toward" the flame and the sound. Is there something wrong with them? No, there is something gloriously right about them!

—Lt. Col. Dave Grossman

Faces of Hate



bin Laden



McVeigh



Hitler



Hussein



Koresh

The Moral Ideal on the Use of Force



The Great Seal of the United States represents the moral ideal regarding the use of force. Arrows are in one claw and represent strength. An olive branch is in the other claw and represents peace. The eagle's head is turned toward the olive branch because peace is preferred. But the arrows are always ready if force is necessary. In the same way, the portrait of St. Michael the Archangel, the patron saint of police, shows him slaying the devil—a sword is in one hand but it is balanced by the scales of justice in the other hand. (The name Michael signifies "Who is like to God?" which was his war cry against the arrogance of evildoers, who would defy the laws and covenants for reasons of self-interest and power, setting themselves up as gods.)

*Rescue me, Yahweh, from evil men,
Protect me from violent men,
Whose heart is bent on malice.*

— Psalm 140:1-2

